

## ONE SEAT RIDE ACT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 1547]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1547) to direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study on the costs and benefits of commuter rail passenger transportation involving transfers, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

## CONTENTS

|                                                                                 | Page |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Purpose of Legislation .....                                                    | 2    |
| Background and Need for Legislation .....                                       | 2    |
| Hearings .....                                                                  | 2    |
| Legislative History and Consideration .....                                     | 3    |
| Committee Votes .....                                                           | 3    |
| Committee Oversight Findings and Recommendations .....                          | 5    |
| New Budget Authority and Tax Expenditures .....                                 | 5    |
| Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate .....                                 | 5    |
| Performance Goals and Objectives .....                                          | 6    |
| Duplication of Federal Programs .....                                           | 6    |
| Congressional Earmarks, Limited Tax Benefits, and Limited Tariff Benefits ..... | 6    |
| Federal Mandates Statement .....                                                | 6    |
| Preemption Clarification .....                                                  | 6    |
| Advisory Committee Statement .....                                              | 6    |
| Applicability to Legislative Branch .....                                       | 6    |
| Section-by-Section Analysis of The Legislation .....                            | 7    |
| Section 1. Short Title. ....                                                    | 7    |
| Section 2. Study on Commuter Service. ....                                      | 7    |
| Changes in Existing Law Made by the Bill, as Reported .....                     | 7    |

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “One Seat Ride Act”.

**SEC. 2. STUDY ON COMMUTER SERVICE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a study identifying the benefits of commuter rail passenger transportation and major obstacles to providing commuter rail passenger transportation that does not involve a transfer for passengers.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) consider economic, logistical, and quality of life factors in analyzing the major obstacles to implementing single-seat trips on commuter rail passenger transportation for as many passengers as possible; and

(2) include in such study an analysis of the costs and benefits with respect to single-seat trips on commuter rail passenger transportation on the New Jersey Transit Raritan Valley line during peak hours and the impact such trips would have on other New Jersey Transit lines.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report on the study required under subsection (a).

(d) COMMUTER RAIL PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term “commuter rail passenger transportation” has the meaning given such term in section 24102 of title 49, United States Code.

**PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION**

The purpose of H.R. 1547, as amended, is to direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study on the costs and benefits of commuter rail passenger transportation involving transfers.

**BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION**

This legislation directs the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study analyzing obstacles to single-seat trips on commuter passenger rail. The study specifically will analyze the costs and benefits of providing single-seat commuter rail service on the New Jersey Transit Raritan Valley line during peak transit times and the impact of such service on other New Jersey Transit Lines.

A “one seat ride” would allow commuters to take one train on the Raritan Valley line, as opposed to needing to transfer trains at various points on the network. The Secretary must submit the results of the study to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate within one year of this Act’s enactment.

**HEARINGS**

For the purposes of rule XIII, clause 3(c)(6)(A) of the 118th Congress the following hearings were used to develop or consider H.R. 1547:

On June 6, 2023, the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure held a hearing entitled, “Amtrak Operations: Examining the Challenges and Opportunities for Improving Efficiency and Service.” The hearing provided an opportunity for Members of the Committee to discuss the current state of Amtrak and plans for passenger rail growth, including discussion of this legislation. The Subcommittee received testimony from Mr. Stephen Gardner, Chief

Executive Officer, Amtrak, and Mr. Mitch Warren, Executive Director, Northeast Corridor Commission.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND CONSIDERATION

H.R. 1547, the “*One Seat Ride Act*,” was introduced in the United States House of Representatives on March 10, 2023, by Mr. Kean of New Jersey and Ms. Watson Coleman of New Jersey, and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Within the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, H.R. 1547 was referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials and the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. The Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials and Subcommittee on Highways and Transit were discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1547 on July 27, 2023.

The Committee considered H.R. 1547 on July 27, 2023, and ordered the measure to be reported to the House with a favorable recommendation, as amended, by a recorded vote of 56 yeas and 3 nays.

The following amendments were offered:

Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 1547 offered by Mr. Kean of New Jersey (ANS 1) was AGREED TO, as amended, by voice vote.

An Amendment to the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 1547 offered by Mr. Payne of New Jersey (Payne 047) (ANS 1A) was AGREED TO by voice vote.

An Amendment to the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 1547 offered by Mr. Payne of New Jersey (Payne 048) (ANS 1B) was NOT AGREED TO by a recorded vote of 27 yeas and 32 nays.

An Amendment to the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 1547 offered by Mr. Menendez of New Jersey (Menendez 015) (ANS 1C) was NOT AGREED TO by voice vote.

#### COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires each committee report to include the total number of votes cast for and against on each record vote on a motion to report and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, and the names of those members voting for and against.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Roll Call Vote No. 24*

On: agreeing to Amendment (Payne 48) ANS 1B offered by Mr. Payne

Not Agreed to: 27 yeas and 32 nays

| Member                  | Vote | Member                  | Vote  |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|-------|
| Mr. Graves of MO .....  | Nay  | Mr. Larsen of WA .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. Crawford .....      | Nay  | Ms. Norton .....        | Yea   |
| Mr. Webster of FL ..... | Nay  | Mrs. Napolitano .....   | Yea   |
| Mr. Massie .....        | Nay  | Mr. Cohen .....         | ..... |
| Mr. Perry .....         | Nay  | Mr. Garamendi .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. Babin .....         | Nay  | Mr. Johnson of GA ..... | Yea   |
| Mr. Graves of LA .....  | Nay  | Mr. Carson .....        | Yea   |
| Mr. Rouzer .....        | Nay  | Ms. Titus .....         | Yea   |
| Mr. Bost .....          | Nay  | Mr. Huffman .....       | ..... |
| Mr. LaMalfa .....       | Nay  | Ms. Brownley .....      | Yea   |

| Member                           | Vote  | Member                 | Vote  |
|----------------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| Mr. Westerman .....              | Nay   | Ms. Wilson of FL ..... | Yea   |
| Mr. Mast .....                   | Nay   | Mr. Payne .....        | Yea   |
| <i>Mrs. González-Colón</i> ..... | Nay   | Mr. DeSaulnier .....   | Yea   |
| Mr. Stauber .....                | Nay   | Mr. Carbajal .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. Burchett .....               | Nay   | Mr. Stanton .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Johnson of SD .....          | ..... | Mr. Allred .....       | Yea   |
| Mr. Van Drew .....               | Nay   | Ms. Davids of KS ..... | Yea   |
| Mr. Nehls .....                  | Nay   | Mr. García of IL ..... | Yea   |
| Mr. Gooden of TX .....           | ..... | Mr. Pappas .....       | Yea   |
| Mr. Mann .....                   | Nay   | Mr. Moulton .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Owens .....                  | Nay   | Mr. Auchincloss .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. Yakym .....                  | Nay   | Ms. Strickland .....   | Yea   |
| <i>Mrs. Chavez-DeRemer</i> ..... | Nay   | Mr. Carter of LA ..... | ..... |
| Mr. Edwards .....                | Nay   | Mr. Ryan .....         | Yea   |
| Mr. Kean of NJ .....             | Nay   | Mrs. Peltola .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. D'Esposito .....             | Nay   | Mr. Menendez .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. Burlison .....               | Nay   | Ms. Hoyle of OR .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. James .....                  | Nay   | Mrs. Sykes .....       | Yea   |
| Mr. Van Orden .....              | Nay   | Ms. Scholten .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. Williams of NY .....         | ..... | Mrs. Foushee .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. Molinaro .....               | Nay   |                        |       |
| Mr. Collins .....                | Nay   |                        |       |
| Mr. Ezell .....                  | Nay   |                        |       |
| Mr. Duarte .....                 | Nay   |                        |       |
| Mr. Bean of FL .....             | Nay   |                        |       |

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Roll Call Vote No.*  
25

On: agreeing to Final Passage, H.R. 1547, as amended  
Agreed to: 56 yeas and 3 nays

| Member                           | Vote  | Member                  | Vote  |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Mr. Graves of MO .....           | Yea   | Mr. Larsen of WA .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. Crawford .....               | Yea   | <i>Ms. Norton</i> ..... | Yea   |
| Mr. Webster of FL .....          | Yea   | Mrs. Napolitano .....   | Yea   |
| Mr. Massie .....                 | Nay   | Mr. Cohen .....         | ..... |
| Mr. Perry .....                  | Nay   | Mr. Garamendi .....     | Yea   |
| Mr. Babin .....                  | Yea   | Mr. Johnson of GA ..... | Yea   |
| Mr. Graves of LA .....           | Yea   | Mr. Carson .....        | Yea   |
| Mr. Rouzer .....                 | Yea   | Ms. Titus .....         | Yea   |
| Mr. Bost .....                   | Yea   | Mr. Huffman .....       | ..... |
| Mr. LaMalfa .....                | Yea   | Ms. Brownley .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Westerman .....              | Yea   | Ms. Wilson of FL .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. Mast .....                   | Yea   | Mr. Payne .....         | Yea   |
| <i>Mrs. González-Colón</i> ..... | Yea   | Mr. DeSaulnier .....    | Yea   |
| Mr. Stauber .....                | Yea   | Mr. Carbajal .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Burchett .....               | Yea   | Mr. Stanton .....       | Yea   |
| Mr. Johnson of SD .....          | ..... | Mr. Allred .....        | Yea   |
| Mr. Van Drew .....               | Yea   | Ms. Davids of KS .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. Nehls .....                  | Yea   | Mr. García of IL .....  | Yea   |
| Mr. Gooden of TX .....           | ..... | Mr. Pappas .....        | Yea   |
| Mr. Mann .....                   | Yea   | Mr. Moulton .....       | Yea   |
| Mr. Owens .....                  | Yea   | Mr. Auchincloss .....   | Yea   |
| Mr. Yakym .....                  | Yea   | Ms. Strickland .....    | Yea   |
| <i>Mrs. Chavez-DeRemer</i> ..... | Yea   | Mr. Carter of LA .....  | ..... |
| Mr. Edwards .....                | Yea   | Mr. Ryan .....          | Yea   |
| Mr. Kean of NJ .....             | Yea   | Mrs. Peltola .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. D'Esposito .....             | Yea   | Mr. Menendez .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Burlison .....               | Nay   | Ms. Hoyle of OR .....   | Yea   |
| Mr. James .....                  | Yea   | Mrs. Sykes .....        | Yea   |
| Mr. Van Orden .....              | Yea   | Ms. Scholten .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Williams of NY .....         | ..... | Mrs. Foushee .....      | Yea   |
| Mr. Molinaro .....               | Yea   |                         |       |
| Mr. Collins .....                | Yea   |                         |       |
| Mr. Ezell .....                  | Yea   |                         |       |

| Member               | Vote | Member | Vote |
|----------------------|------|--------|------|
| Mr. Duarte .....     | Yea  |        |      |
| Mr. Bean of FL ..... | Yea  |        |      |

#### COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in this report.

#### NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply where a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the *Congressional Budget Act of 1974* has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report and is included in the report. Such a cost estimate is included in this report.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the *Congressional Budget Act of 1974*, the Committee has received the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1547, as amended, from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

| <b>H.R. 1547, One Seat Ride Act</b>                                                                    |      |                                                        |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on July 27, 2023       |      |                                                        |               |
| By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars                                                                    | 2023 | 2023-2028                                              | 2023-2033     |
| Direct Spending (Outlays)                                                                              | 0    | 0                                                      | 0             |
| Revenues                                                                                               | 0    | 0                                                      | 0             |
| Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit                                                                | 0    | 0                                                      | 0             |
| Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)                                                            | 0    | *                                                      | not estimated |
| Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034? | No   | Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?              | No            |
| Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?  | No   | Mandate Effects<br>Contains intergovernmental mandate? | No            |
|                                                                                                        |      | Contains private-sector mandate?                       | No            |

\* = between zero and \$500,000.

H.R. 1547 would require the Department of Transportation (DOT) to study the benefits and obstacles of commuter rail transportation in metropolitan and suburban areas and report its findings to the Congress within one year of enactment. In that study, DOT would consider economic, logistical, and quality of life factors and conduct a cost-benefit analysis of commuter rail transportation on New Jersey transit lines.

Using information about the cost of similar studies, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have an insignificant cost. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Robert Reese. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,  
*Director, Congressional Budget Office.*

#### PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the performance goal and objective of this legislation is to conduct a study on the costs and benefits of commuter rail passenger transportation involving transfers.

#### DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that no provision of H.R. 1547 establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

#### CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

In compliance with clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, this bill, as reported, contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of the rule XXI.

#### FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the *Unfunded Mandates Reform Act* (Public Law 104–4).

#### PREEMPTION CLARIFICATION

Section 423 of the *Congressional Budget Act of 1974* requires the report of any Committee on a bill or joint resolution to include a statement on the extent to which the bill or joint resolution is intended to preempt state, local, or tribal law. The Committee finds that H.R. 1547, as amended, does not preempt any state, local, or tribal law.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the *Federal Advisory Committee Act* were created by this legislation.

#### APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the *Congressional Accountability Act* (Public Law 104–1).

## SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

*Section 1. Short title*

This section states that this Act may be cited as the “One Seat Ride Act.”

*Section 2. Study on commuter service*

This section requires the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study identifying the benefits of commuter rail passenger transportation and major obstacles to providing commuter rail passenger transportation that does not involve a transfer for passengers. The study must include an analysis of the costs and benefits of commuter transport on New Jersey Transit’s Raritan Valley Line during peak hours and the impact of such trips on other New Jersey Transit lines. Within one year of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report on the study to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

## CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

As reported by the Committee, H.R. 1547, as amended, makes no changes in existing law.

